

# An Seanacháí



Vol. 79, Issue 4, December 2017

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Wishing you every happiness this Christmas



Go raibh gach sonas ort an Nollaig seo

## We Had a Merry Christmas Party

AICS had its Christmas Party on December 2 at the airport Holiday Inn. After a delicious luncheon buffet of turkey, trimmings, and plenty of cranberries, gifts were distributed. Mary Sacksteder led us in a game to mix up and distributed the gifts. Gifts of tea towels, Christmas dishes, water bottles, etc. drew a lot of “Oohs” and “Aahs” from recipients. Don Anderson led us in a game of “Name That Christmas Tune.” After the guesses we sang the carols. Many thanks to Rose Ranft and Mary Sacksteder for organizing this delightful start to the holiday season.



Rose Ann Ranft a.k.a., Mrs. Claus

## “High” Tea Will Be the Highlight of the January General Meeting

AICS's will start the year with “high” tea at the January General Meeting. Instead of a program, the meeting will start with socializing and refreshments. Another difference from other programs is that the tea will start at 6PM not 7PM.



Julie O'Connell and Caroline Fogarty, the organizers of the tea, ask that you bring your own cup and saucer. We are trying to have a collection of green and gold fancy plates for future events. If you have extra green and/or gold plates please donate them to AICS. We will gladly accept them at the tea.

The tea will have both savory and sweet treats. Enjoy!

## 2018 Dues Are Due

Dues for 2018 are still \$25 for individual membership or \$40 for family membership. They are due in January.

Christine Seed, our treasurer, and Helen Grealish, our corresponding secretary, will gladly accept your checks/cash for membership dues at the January General Meeting.



If you are not attending the January General Meeting you can pay by mail. Make out checks to AICS, and mail to AICS, PO Box 3411, Portland, OR 97208-4812.

## Who Were the Women Who Inspired Irish Writers?

Louise Martell recently returned from a week-long trip to Dublin to study Irish literature, theatre, and arts. She was impressed by the lack of information about women who influenced various Irish writers. Consequently she organized a brief program on some of these women for the November meeting.

She limited her talk to Stella Johnson, Nora Barnacle, Maude Gonne, and Lady Gregory who influenced Jonathan Swift, James Joyce, and William Butler Yeats. Otherwise her talk would have never ended. These women not only inspired writers but were fascinating on their own right.

Prior to her talk, Louise was awarded a check from the Scholarship Committee toward her trip. She was most grateful for this support and hoped the audience enjoyed her program.

## Save the Date for AICS Events

***Bad weather is coming! Occasionally an AICS event has to be cancelled because of unsafe driving conditions. The board will notify members via email about cancellations on the afternoon of the event. If you do not have email, call the club telephone, 503 286 4812, if you have concerns about the weather. Remember that the board will put members' safety first.***

General Meeting

Saturday, January 20, 6PM Please note the start time of 6PM.

Oregon Stamp Society Building

4828 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

Portland

For more information call 503-286-4812.

Program: **"High" tea.** Please bring a cup and saucer.

## Genealogy-DNA Group

Meetings will be suspended until further notice.

## Pub Social

Sunday, January 28, 4PM until ?

Whelan's Pub

11709 SE Division

Portland

1-503-327-8020

[whelanspdx.com](http://whelanspdx.com)

Pub socials are informal gathering of members and guests, and they are free except food, drinks, and tips. Usually on the last Sunday of the month.



Consul General of Ireland in Portland, December 12, 2017

Robert O'Driscoll, the Irish Consul General, spoke at the December 12 meeting of the AOH (Ancient Order of Hibernians). AICS members were invited. He was impressed that so many who identify as Irish-Americans have maintained that identity despite being many generations removed from immigration.



Robert O'Driscoll, Consul General and Mary Rose Kerg

His main points were how important the western part of the United States is to Ireland; Oregon is its biggest US state trading partner. **O'Driscoll would like to expand the Irish governmental presence on the West Coast. In terms of Ireland's location he said "we now have to start seeing ourselves not as an island off an island off a continent but as a vital link connecting these enormous economic entities."**

**He talked about Brexit, this "disastrous" divorce.** It will be difficult for commerce between Britain and Ireland. The good news is there will be no hard borders between Ireland and Northern Ireland so it appears the biggest dilemmas will be economic.

Contributed by Dorothy Foley

## Shamrock Cruise Will Sail on March 11, 2017

Sam Keator has organized the Shamrock Cruise for Sunday, March 11, 2018, from 3PM to 5 PM on the *Portland Spirit* on the Willamette River. The cruise will feature some of the best of local Irish entertainment. Music and step dancing will be on all levels. One floor will be a quieter space. No host food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Boarding will begin at Salmon Springs Boarding at 2:30 p.m.

Admission is \$32 for adults; \$22 for youth 16 and under. Youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. Members will receive a 10% discount with buying on line ([brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)) and using the code "IrishClub"

As Mary Rose, AICS president, **summed up why we are supporting this event**, "All of us will be working our fingers to the bone for St. Patrick's on the 17th. This event sounds lovely - where we can enjoy great entertainment and will not have to work. **How great is that?"**

Let all of us support this maiden voyage of the "Shamrock Cruise" by getting the word out to family and friends.



Chance to Take the Shamrock Cruise and Support a Good Cause.

Sam wants to pay back the AICS for the support he received from members over the years in his and Anne's efforts to promote Irish culture. He has donated two tickets for the Shamrock Cruise, a \$64 value to AICS.

The Board decided that probably the fairest way to distribute these tickets is to raffle them off **and donate the receipts such as we did last year with the "Molly Malone" figurine. This year's recipient will be St. Birgitta's Church.** For years St. **Birgitta's** has provided the space, without charge, where we store club property. It is a parish that could use support

## Raffle

First Prize: 2 tickets to the Shamrock Cruise Maiden Voyage  
Donated by Sam Keator and Anne Doherty [www.IrishPDX.com](http://www.IrishPDX.com)

Sunday, March 11, 2018 3 p.m.

Portland Spirit - Salmon Springs Boarding, Portland OR at 2:30 p.m.

Featuring entertainment by Peter Yeates, Eddie Parente, Tom Creegan, Dale Russ, Johnny Connolly, Cary Novotny and Tim Birr. Irish step dancers on each floor.

Other Prizes: **Owen Roe O'Reilly's Chardonnay Wine**

Membership to the All-Ireland Cultural Society

A gift basket and Pot of Gold – cash

Why is this raffle important?

**All proceeds go to St. Birgitta's church**, which has stored AICS equipment and supplies for years. **It's our way of giving back.** Thank you for your support.

Drawing will be held at the AICS February 17, 2018 meeting and social.

Winners need not be present. They will be notified at that time.

Tickets are \$3 per ticket or 2 tickets for \$5.

Make checks payable to All-Ireland Cultural Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

Contact information: All-Ireland Cultural Society. PH: 503-286-4812

About the Shamrock Cruise – [www.shamrockcruise.com](http://www.shamrockcruise.com)

Raffle chances will be sold at the January General Meeting. If you will not be at the January meeting, you can obtain tickets from Mary Rose Kerg There is no limit on the number of chances one can purchase.

## Celtic Events

Welcome the New Year with a community dance!

Friday, January 5, 2018, 7:30PM until 11PM

Winona Grange #271

8340 SW Seneca Street

Tualatin

The Bronnie Griffin Band with Preston Howard and Cary Novotny

**“When Bronnie takes out her bow, you know she’ll be playing with all the authenticity of the finest Irish fiddlers, [yet] the Old-Time undertones of her roots always come through.”** Paul Duchene, *Portland Tribune*

Cost: \$12, \$10 Vets, students and seniors

Lifeboat

January 12 – February 4, 2018

A Corrib Theatre Production

Thursday-Saturday 7:30PM, Sunday 2PM

**Northwest Children’s Theater**

1819 NW Everett Street

Portland

The extraordinary true story of Bess Walder and Beth Cummings, teenagers whose ship was torpedoed while they were escaping the relentless bombing of Britain during World War II. It is a story of courage, survival and enduring friendship.

For more information [www.corribtheatre.org](http://www.corribtheatre.org)

## Weekly Ceili Events

**Tuesdays:** Tir Eoghain ceili class, 7:30-9:30PM, St. Therese Multi-Purpose Center  
1260 NE 132nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97230. \$5 sliding. 14 years old and up.

**Tuesdays:** Ceili of the Valley, 6:30-8:30PM Ceili and set dancing  
VFW Hall 630 Hood St. NE, Salem

Thursdays: Winds of Donegal, 7-9PM Winona Grange 8340 SW Seneca St. Tualatin  
5\$ fee. Beginners always welcomed! This class is structured for adults – young and old. We  
also encourage mature teens who want to learn.

## Monthly Ceili Events

Ceili Mor: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month. 8-11PM (Doors open 7:30PM), October through May  
Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca St. Tualatin

\$12 adults, \$10 students (Age 12 and up), veterans, and seniors 65 and older.

For more information please go to [SandAlrishEntertainment.com](http://SandAlrishEntertainment.com)

**Irish Jam Session: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** of the month 3-6PM, Winona Grange

## **Portland Ceili Society: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, Nov. 17**

Featuring the tunes of Johnny Connolly and Cary Novotny

Instruction about 7:30PM, Dance 8-11PM

St. Barnabas Church Hall

2201 SW Vermont St

Portland

\$12 general admission/ \$8 for members

Visit the website for Portland Ceili Society, [www.portlandceilisociety.org](http://www.portlandceilisociety.org) for more information.

## **Ceili of the Valley: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday**

7-8PM Lesson, 8-11PM Live music and ceili

VFW Hall 630 Hood St. NE

Salem

[www.ceiliofthevalley.org](http://www.ceiliofthevalley.org) for more information.

## Advertiser of the Month

Many of our readers do not know much about our advertisers. So *An Seanachai* will feature one of its advertisers in every other issue. If you like what you read please patronize the advertiser. This month's featured advertiser is The Celtic Corner.

Many of us have been to The Celtic Corner when it was an actual shop on NE Sandy Blvd. The shop was a reliable source of Barry's tea and Irish goods and gifts. We knew that our errand would include a delightful conversation with the proprietor, Noel Hislop.

Noel has closed the shop but has not retired. He still has Irish items for sale through his email. So if you are looking for dance shoes or a special Irish item, email him (noelscelticshop@aol.com). You won't be disappointed!



## Advertisements

If you have a business or a service to offer to our members, let us advertise for you. We can print your business card for \$25 per year. *An Seanachai* sends out ten or more issues per year, and these go to more than one hundred local households. For more information about this incredible bargain send an e-mail to Louise Martell, at [martell@u.washington.edu](mailto:martell@u.washington.edu)

# ceili of the valley



## Tuesday Night Classes

6:30-8:30 Ceili & Set Dancing

## 2nd Friday Ceili

7-8 p.m. Lesson

8-11 p.m. Live Music & Ceili

all at the VFW Hall,  
630 Hood St. NE in Salem

[www.ceiliofthevalley.org](http://www.ceiliofthevalley.org)

# PORTLAND STORY THEATER

[portlandstorytheater.com](http://portlandstorytheater.com) | 503-284-2226

# OIDA

Oregon Irish Dance Academy

*Non-Competitive Irish  
Dancing Classes for All Ages*

503-819-9555

[oregonirishdance@gmail.com](mailto:oregonirishdance@gmail.com)

[www.oregonirishdance.com](http://www.oregonirishdance.com)





## Essential Information for the All-Ireland Cultural Society

**Address:** AICS of Oregon  
PO Box 3411  
Portland, OR 97208

**Telephone:** 503 286 4812

### Board of Directors 2017-2018

President: Mary Rose Kerg  
Vice President: Brendan Kerg  
Recording Secretary: Julie O'Connell  
Corresponding Secretary: Helen Grealish  
Treasurer: Christine Seed  
Directors: Louise Martell, Caroline Fogarty, Patrick Seed  
Trustees: Tom Crowley, Colleen Spiering, Shirley Hahn

**Editor of *An Seanachai*:** Louise Martell

### Committees

Book Club: Julie O'Connell  
Communications:  
Genealogy: Don Anderson  
Scholarship: Tim Birr, Bruce Kenny, Debbie Timmins  
Sunshine: Patsy Lee  
St. Patrick's Celebration 2018: Brendan Kerg

### Consulate General of Ireland:

Robert O'Driscoll, Consul General of Ireland  
100 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94111  
Tel: 415 392 4214 Email: [SanFranConGen@dfa.ie](mailto:SanFranConGen@dfa.ie) Website: [www.consulateofirelandsanfrancisco.org](http://www.consulateofirelandsanfrancisco.org)

### Honorary Consulate of Ireland

John F. Keane, 7511 10<sup>th</sup> St SW, Unit #1, Edmonds, WA 9802, Tel: 425 582 2688  
Email: [JKeane@IrishConsulSeattle.com](mailto:JKeane@IrishConsulSeattle.com) Website: [www.IrishConsulSeattle.com](http://www.IrishConsulSeattle.com)

**AICS Website** [www.oregonirishsociety.org](http://www.oregonirishsociety.org)

The AICS is a federally recognized 501(3)(c) non-profit public benefit cultural organization. The AICS is listed with the State of Oregon as a non-profit corporation. Donations and contributions made to the AICS may be tax deductible for income tax purposes.

